

REMARKS

In view of the September 1, 2004 Decision on Appeal by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, Applicants have amended the claims to place the application in form for allowance.

Applicants note that the Office Action at page 2, paragraph 2 indicates that the application will be passed to issue on allowed claims 4 and 5, after appropriate amendment. The Office Action does not specifically mention allowable dependent claims 6-8. Applicants submit that claims 6-8 are allowable based on their dependency on allowable claim 5, as well as the Board's Decision reversing the Examiner's rejection of these claims in all respects. Therefore, the application should be passed to issue with claims 4-8, as amended.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald Kimble
Registration No. 44,186

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 13, 2005